

STE

My lord of Amiens and myself
Did *steal* behind him as he lay along
Under an oak. *Shakespeare.*

I cannot think it,
That he would *steal* away so guilty like,
Seeing you coming. *Shakespeare's Othello.*
The most peaceable way, if you take a thief, is to let him
show what he is, and *steal* out of your company. *Shakespeare.*
At time that lover's flights doth still conceal,
Through Athens' gate have we devis'd to *steal*. *Shakespeare.*
In my conduct shall your ladies come,
From whom you now must *steal* and take no leave. *Shakespeare.*
Others weary of the long journey, lingering behind, were
steal away; and they which were left, moided with dirt and
mire. *Knolles.*

A bride
Should vanish from her cloaths into her bed,
As souls from bodies *steal* and are not py'd. *Downe.*
The vapour of charcoal hath killed many, and it is the
more dangerous, because it creeps without any ill smell, and
steals on by little and little. *Bacon's Natural History.*

A soft and solemn breathing found,
Rose like a steam of rich distill'd perfumes,
And *steal* upon the air, that even silence
Was took ere she was ware. *Milton.*

As wife artill mix their colours so,
That by degrees they from each other go;
Black *steals* unheeded from the neighbouring white,
So on *steal* our blessed change. *Dryden.*

At a time when he had no steward, he *steal* away.
Now his fierce eyes with sparkling fury glow,
Now sighs *steal* out when tears begin to flow. *Pope.*

2. To practise theft; to play the thief; to take any thing thievish-
ly; to have the habit of thieving.
Stealing is the taking from another what is his, without his
knowledge or allowance. *Locke.*

The good humour is to *steal* at a minute's rest. — Convey,
the wife it call; *steal*! a fico for the phrale! *Shakespeare.*

STEAL'ER. *n. f.* [from *steal*.] One who steals; a thief.

STEALINGLY. *adv.* [from *stealing*.] Silly; by invisible motion;
by secret practice.

They were diverse motions, they did so *stealingly* slip one
into another, as the latter part was ever in hand before the
eye could discern the former was ended. *Sidney.*

STEALTH. *n. f.* [from *steal*.]

1. The act of stealing; theft.
The owner proveth the *stealth* to have been committed upon
him by such an outlaw, and to have been found in the posses-
sion of the prisoner. *Spenser's State of Ireland.*

The *stealth* of mutual entertainment
With character too gross is written on Juliet. *Shakespeare.*

In the secret dark that none reproves,
Their pretty *stealths* shall work, and snares shall spread. *Spenser.*

The gods persuaded Mercury,
Their good observer, to his *stealth*. *Chapman's Iliad.*

2. The thing stolen.

On his back a heavy load he bare
Of nightly *stealths*, and pillage several. *Fairy Queen.*
The savage beasts in her victorious play,
Store of cabbins are but flutish dens, that breed sickness in
peace, serving to cover *stealths*, and in fight are dangerous to
tear men with splinters. *Raleigh.*

3. Secret act; clandestine practice. By *stealth* means secretly;
clandestinely; with desire of concealment: but, like *steal*, is
often used in a good sense.

The wisdom of the same spirit borrowed from melody that
pleasure, which mingled with heavenly mysteries, causeth the
smoothness and softness of that which toucheth the ear, to
convey as it were by *stealth* the treasure of good things into
man's mind. *Hooker.*

I feel this youth's perfections,
With an invisible and subtle *stealth*,
To creep in at mine eyes. *Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.*

The monarch blinded with desire of wealth,
With *steal* invades his brother's life by *stealth*
Before the sacred altar. *Dryden.*

Let humble Allen, with an aukward shame,
Do good by *stealth*, and blush to find it fame. *Pope.*

STEALTHY. *adj.* [from *stealth*.] Done clandestinely; performed
by *stealth*.

Now wither'd murder with his *stealthy* pace,
Moves like a ghost. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

STEAM. *n. f.* [from *steame*, Saxon.] The smoke or vapour of any
thing moist and hot.

Sweet odours are, in such a company as there is *steam* and
heat, things of great refreshment. *Bacon.*

His offering soon propitious fire from heaven
Consum'd with nimble glance and grateful *steam*. *Milton.*

While the temple smok'd with hallow'd *steam*,
They wash the virgin. *Dryden.*

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Such the figure of a feist
Which, were it not for plenty and for *steam*,
Might be resembled to a sick man's dream. *King.*
Some it bears in *steams* up into the air, and this in such a
quantity as to be manifest to the smell, especially the sulphur.
Woodward's Natural History.

To STEAM. *v. n.* [from *steman*, Saxon.]

1. To smoke or vapour with moist heat.

Scarcely had Phœbus in the gloomy east,
Got harnessed his fiery-footed team,
Ne rear'd above the earth his flaming crest

When the last deadly smoke aloft did *steam*. *Fairy Queen.*

See, see, my brother's ghost hangs hovering there,
O'er his warm blood, that *steams* into the air. *Dryden.*

O wretched we! Why were we hurry'd down
This lubrick and adulterate age;

Nay, added fat pollutions of our own,
T' increase the *steaming* ordures of the stage? *Dryden.*

Let the crude humours dance
In heated bras, *steaming* with fire intense. *Philips.*

These minerals not only issue out at these larger exits, but
steam forth through the pores of the earth, occasioning sul-
phureous and other offensive stench. *Woodward.*

2. To send up vapours.

Ye mists that rise from *steaming* lake. *Milton.*

3. To pass in vapours.

The dissolved amber plainly mix like a thin film upon the
liquour, whence it *steamed* away into the air. *Boyle.*

STEAM FOR STEAM. *n. f.* [from *steame*, Saxon.]

If the matter in a wen resembles milk-curd, the tumour is
called atheroma; if like honey, meliceris; and if composed of
fat, steatoma. *Sharp's Surgery.*

STEED. *n. f.* [from *steda*, Saxon.] A horse for state or war.

My noble *steed* I give him, *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

With all his trim belonging. *Milton.*

Imprecious quaint, caparisons and *steeds*. *Waller.*

Stout are our men, and warlike are our *steeds*. *Waller.*

She thought herself the trembling dame who fled,
And him the grisly ghost that spurr'd th' infernal *steed*. *Dryden.*

Who, like our active African, instructs
The fiery *steed*, and trains him to his hand? *Addison's Cato.*

See! the bold youth strain up the threatening *steed*;
Hang o'er their couriers heads with eager speed,
And earth rolls back beneath the flying *steed*. *Pope.*

STEEL. *n. f.* [from *stael*, Saxon; *steel*, Dutch.]

1. Steel is a kind of iron, refined and purified by the fire with
other ingredients, which renders it white, and its grain closer
and finer than common iron. Steel, of all other metals, is
that susceptible of the greatest degree of hardness, when well
tempered; whence its great use in the making of tools and
instruments of all kinds. *Chambers.*

Steel is made from the purest and softest iron, by keeping it
red-hot, stratified with coal-dust and wood-ashes, or other
substances that abound in the phlogiston, for several hours in
a close furnace. It may also be made by fusion, and several
other ways; but they are greatly in the wrong who prefer
steel to iron for medicinal purposes. *Hill's Mat. Medica.*

At her back a bow and quiver gay,
Stuff'd with *steel*-headed darts wherewith the quell'd
The savage beasts in her victorious play. *Fairy Queen.*

With mighty bars of long enduring bras
The *steel*-bound doors and iron gates he ties. *Fairy Queen.*

A looking-glass, with the *steel* behind, looketh whiter than
glass simple. *Bacon's Natural History.*

Diamonds, though hard bodies, will not readily strike fire
with *steel*, much less with one another; nor a flint easily with
a *steel*, if they both be wet; the sparks being then quenched
in their eruption. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

Both were of shining *steel*, and wrought of pure
As might the strokes of two such arms endure. *Dryden.*

2. It is often used metonymically for weapons or armour.

Brave Macbeth with his brandish'd *steel*
Which smok'd with bloody execution,
Carv'd out his passage till he had fac'd the slave. *Shakespeare.*

A grove of oaks,
Whose polish'd *steel* from far severely shines,
Are not so dreadful as this beautiful queen. *Dryden.*

He sudden as the word,
In proud Plexippus' bosom plunged the sword;
Toxous amaz'd, and with amazement flows,
Stood doubting; and while doubting thus he stood,
Receiv'd the *steel* bath'd in his brother's blood. *Dryden.*

3. Chalybeate medicines.

After relaxing, *steel* strengthens the solids, and is likewise
an antacid. *Arbutnot.*

4. It is used proverbially for hardness: as heads of *steel*.

To STEEL. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To point or edge with *steel*.

Add proof unto mine armour with thy prayers,
And with thy blessings *steel* my lance's point. *Shakespeare.*

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2. To make hard or firm. It is used, if it be applied to the mind,
very often in a bad sense.

Lies well *steel'd* with weighty arguments. *Shakespeare.*

So service shall with *steed* fingers toil,
And labour shall refresh itself with hope. *Shakespeare's H. V.*

From his metal was his party *steel'd*;
Which once in him rebated, all the rest

Turn'd on themselves, like dull and heavy lead. *Shakespeare.*

O God of battles! *steel* my soldiers hearts,
Possess them not with fear. *Shakespeare's Henry V.*

Why will you fight against so sweet a passion,
And *steel* your heart to such a world of charms? *Addison.*

Man, foolish man!
Scarcely know'st thou how thyself began;

Yet *steel'd* with study'd boldness, thou dar'st try
To send thy doubted reason's dazzled eye

Through the mysterious gulph of vast immensity. *Prior.*

Let the *steel'd* Turk be deaf to matrons' cries,
See virgins ravish'd with relentless eyes. *Tickell.*

STEELY. *adj.* [from *steel*.]

1. Made of *steel*.

Thy brother's blood the thirsty earth hath drunk,
Branch'd with the *steely* point of Clifford's lance. *Shakespeare.*

Here smokes his forge, he bares his sinewy arm,
And early strokes the founding anvil warm;

Around his shop the *steely* sparks flew,
As for the *steed* he flap'd the bending shoe. *Gay.*

2. Hard; firm.

That she would unarm her noble heart of that *steely* resist-
ance against the sweet blows of love. *Sidney.*

STEELYARD. *n. f.* [from *steel* and *yard*.] A kind of balance, in
which the weight is moved along an iron rod, and grows heav-
ier as it is removed farther from the fulcrum. *Ainsworth.*

STEEN, or STEAN. *n. f.* A vessel of clay or stone.

STEEP. *adj.* [from *steepe*, Saxon.] Rising or descending with little
inclination.

He now had conquer'd Anxur's *steep* ascent. *Addison.*

STEEP. *n. f.* Precipice; ascent or descent approaching to per-
pendicularity.

As that Theban monster that propos'd
Her riddle, and him, who solv'd it not, devour'd;
That once found out and solv'd, for grief and spight
Cast herself headlong from the Iliac *steep*. *Milton.*

As high turrets for their airy *steep*
Require foundations, in proportion deep;

And lofty cedars as far upwards shoot,
As to the neather heavens they drive the root;

So low did her secure foundation lie,
She was not humble, but humility. *Dryden.*

Instructs the beast to know his native force,
To take the bit between his teeth, and fly

To the next headlong *steep* of anarchy. *Dryden.*

We had on each side naked rocks and mountains, broken
into a thousand irregular *steeps* and precipices. *Addison.*

Leaning o'er the rails, he musing stood,
And view'd below the black canal of mud,

Where common shores a lulling murmur keep,
Whose torrents rush from Holborn's fatal *steep*. *Gay.*

To STEEP. *v. a.* [from *steepe*, Dutch.] To soak; to macerate;
to imbue; to dip.

When his brother saw the red blood trail
Adown to fast, and all his armour *steep*,
For very fullness he had 'gan to weep.

He, like an adder, lurking in the weeds,
His wand'ring thought in deep desire does *steep*;

And his frail eye with spoil of beauty feeds. *Fairy Queen.*

A napkin *steeped* in the harmless blood
Of sweet young Rutland. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*

Present to her, as sometime Marg'ret
Did to thy father, *steep'd* in Rutland's blood,
A handkerchief; which, say to her, did drain

The purple tide from her sweet brother's body. *Shakespeare.*

The conquering wine hath *steep'd* our sense
In soft and delicate Lethe. *Shakespeare.*

Many dream not to find, neither deserve,
And yet are *steep'd* in favours. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*

Four days will quickly *steep* themselves in night:
Four nights will quickly dream away the time. *Shakespeare.*

Most of the *steepings* are cheap things, and the goodness of
the crop is a great matter of gain. *Bacon.*

Whole droves of minds are by the driving god
Compell'd to drink the deep Lethean flood:

In large forgetful draughts to *steep* the cares
Of their past labours and their irksome years. *Dryden.*

Wheat *steeped* in brine twelve hours prevents the smuttings.

STEETLE. *n. f.* [from *steeple*, Saxon.] A turret of a church
generally furnished with bells. A spire.

Blow, winds, and crack your cheeks; rage, blow!
You cataracts and hurricanes spout

Till you have drench'd our *steeples*, drown'd the cocks.
Shakespeare.

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What was found in many places, and preached for wheat
fallen on the ground from the clouds, was but the seed of ivy-
berries, and though found in *steeples* or high places, might be
conveyed thither or muted by birds. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
A raven I saw yesterday *steep*-high, just over your house.
L'Estrange.

They, far from *steeples* and their sacred found,
In fields their fullen conventicles found. *Dryden.*

STEELY. *adv.* [from *steep*.] With precipitous declivity.

STEEPNESS. *n. f.* [from *steep*.] Precipitous declivity.

The cragg'dness or *steepness* of that mountain maketh many
parts of it inaccessible. *Brerewood on Language.*

Lord Lovel swam over Trent on horseback, but could not
recover the farther side, by reason of the *steepness* of the bank,
and so was drowned. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

Vineyards, meadows, and cornfields lie on the borders, and
run up all the fides of the Alps, where the barrenness of the
rocks, or the *steepness* of the ascent will suffer them. *Addison.*

STEER. *n. f.* [from *steepe*.] Having a precipitous declivity.

A poetical word for *steep*.

Who hath dispos'd, but thou, the winding way,
Where springs down from the *steep* craggs do beat. *Wotton.*

A prophet some, and some a poet cry,
From *steep* Othrys' top to Pylus drove

His herd; and for his pains enjoy'd his love. *Dryden.*

No more, my goats, shall I behold you climb
The *steep* cliffs, or crop the flow'ry thyme! *Dryden.*

STEER. *n. f.* [from *steepe*, Saxon; *stier*, Dutch.]

A young bullock.

They think themselves half exempted from law and obedi-
ence; and having once tasted freedom, do, like a *steer* that
hath been long out of his yoke, grudge and repine ever after
to come under rule again. *Spenser's Ireland.*

Lacoon, Neptune's priest,
With solemn pomp then sacrific'd a *steer*. *Dryden.*

Nor has the *steer*,
At whose strong chest the deadly tiger hangs,
E'er plow'd for him. *Thomson.*

To STEER. *v. a.* [from *steepe*, Saxon; *stieren*, Dutch.] To
direct; to guide in a passage.

A comely palmer, clad in black attire,
Of ripe years, and hairs all hoary gray,
That with a staff his feeble steps did *steer*,
Left his long way his aged limbs should tire. *Fairy Queen.*

If a pilot cannot see the pole star it can be no fault in him
to *steer* his course by such stars as do best appear to him. *K. Ch.*

To STEER. *v. n.* To direct a course.

As when a ship by skilful steerfman wrought,
Nigh river's mouth, or foreland, where the wind
Veers oft, as oft to *steers*, and shifts her sail. *Milton.*

In a creature, whose thoughts are more than the sands, and
wider than the ocean, fancy and passion must needs run him
into strange courses, if reason, which is his only star and com-
pass, be not that he *steers* by. *Locke.*

STEERAGE. *n. f.* [from *steer*.]

1. The act or practice of steering.

2. Direction; regulation of a course.

He that hath the *steerage* of my course,
Direct my suit. *Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet*

Having got his vessel launched and set afloat, he committed
the *steerage* of it to such as he thought capable of conducting
it. *Spektor.*

3. That by which any course is guided.

His costly frame
Inscrib'd to Phœbus, here he hung on high,
The *steerage* of his wings, and cut the sky. *Dryden.*

4. Regulation, or management of any thing.

You raise the honour of the peerage,
Proud to attend you at the *steerage*. *Swift.*

5. The stern or hinder part of the ship.

STEERSMAN. *n. f.* [from *steer* and *man*, or *mate*.] A pilot; one
who steers a ship.

What pilot so expert but needs must wreck,
Embark'd with such a *steersman* at the helm? *Milton.*

In a storm, though the vessel be pressed never so hard, a skil-
ful *steersman* will yet bear up against it. *L'Estrange.*

Through it the joyful *steersman* clears his way,
And comes to anchor in his inmost bay. *Dryden.*

STEGANOGRAPHIST. *n. f.* [from *steganos* and *graphos*.] He who
practises the art of secret writing. *Bailey.*

STEGANOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [from *steganos* and *graphos*.] The art of
secret writing by characters or cyphers, intelligible only to the
persons who correspond one with another. *Bailey.*

STENO-TICK. *adj.* [from *steno* and *ticken*.] Binding; rendering co-
hesive. *Bailey.*

STELE. *n. f.* [from *stela*, Sax. *stela*, Dutch.] A stalk; a handle.

STELLAR. *adj.* [from *stella*.] Astral; relating to the stars.

In part shed down
Their *stellar* virtue, on all kinds that grow
On earth; made hereby apter to receive
Perfection from the sun's more potent ray. *Milton.*